Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-44 (Canceled).

44 (Withdrawn/Currently Amended). In a method for administering venlafaxine hydrochloride to a patient in need thereof, comprising administering the venlafaxine hydrochloride as an extended release composition to the patient, the improvement wherein the extended release composition is in accordance with claim ~~31~~47.

45-46 (Cancelled).

47 (Currently Amended). A pH-independent extended release dosage form having specified dissolution characteristics, comprising:

venlafaxine hydrochloride in an amount of 30-60% based on the total weight of the dosage form;

said venlafaxine hydrochloride being coated on a nonpareil inert core, said nonpareil inert core comprising 30-60% based on the total weight of the dosage form;

the venlafaxine hydrochloride being optionally connected to a binder in a binder amount of 0.5-10% based on the

total weight of the dosage form wherein said binder, when present, is selected from the group consisting of polyvinylpyrrolidone, hydroxypropylcellulose and hydroxypropylmethylcellulose;

an isolating layer coating said venlafaxine hydrochloride and comprising 0.5-10% based on the total weight of the dosage form, said isolating layer being ~~selected from the group consisting of~~ polyvinylpyrrolidone~~,~~ ~~hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, carrageenan and GMS~~; and

a controlled release layer coated over said isolating layer, said controlled release layer comprising a controlled release polymer mixed with a plasticizer, said controlled release polymer comprising 2-15% based on the total weight of the dosage form, said controlled release polymer being ~~selected from the group consisting of ammonio methacrylate copolymer, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose,~~ ethyl cellulose, ~~and cellulose acetate,~~ and said plasticizer comprising 0.1-2% based on the total weight of the dosage form, said plasticizer being dibutyl sebacate;

the parameters being selected so as to control release of the venlafaxine hydrochloride over an approximately 24 hour

period in a manner that the following pH and rpm independent *in vitro* dissolution specifications are obtained:

Time (hrs)	Average % venlafaxine HCl release
2	<30
4	30-55
8	55-80
12	65-90
24	>80

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48-49 (Cancelled).